



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE, INDIAN HEALTH SERVICE
TUCSON AREA OFFICE, TUCSON, ARIZONA



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: TUC-OC-09-0002 **OPEN:** January 20, 2009 **CLOSE:** December 31, 2009

POSITION TITLE/SERIES/GRADE: Clinical Nurse, GS-0610-4/5/7/9

SALARY RANGE: GS-04: \$41,866 - \$47,501 per annum
GS-05: \$45,947 - \$53,155 per annum
GS-07: \$50,217 - \$60,261 per annum
GS-09: \$54,599 - \$68,249 per annum

VACANCIES: This is an "Open Continuous" announcement. Multiple permanent (full-time) positions may be filled from this announcement during the term of the open period. A list of qualified applicants will be compiled and referred at the request of the selecting official upon a vacancy. Those candidates who have complete application packets on file as of each request date will receive full consideration for the position vacancy.

PROMOTION POTENTIAL: To grades GS-5/7/9. If the position is filled at a lower grade, an incumbent may be promoted to the full performance grade level once all legal and regulatory requirements are met; however, such promotion is neither automatic nor guaranteed.

ORGANIZATION/DUTY LOCATION: DHHS, IHS Tucson Area Office, Sells Service Unit, Division of Nursing Services, Inpatient Nursing Branch, Sells, Arizona.

AREA OF CONSIDERATION: Open to Merit Promotion Plan/Excepted Service Examining Plan candidates, Veteran's Preference candidates, and Commissioned Corp Officers. For a brief description of hiring plans please visit this website: <http://www.ihs.gov/JobsCareerDevelop/JobsAtIHS/>

- Excepted Service Examining Plan Candidates (ESEP) – Individuals entitled to Indian Preference who wish to be considered for excepted appointment in the Indian Health Service (IHS), under authority 5 CFR, Part 213, Schedule A 213.3116 (b) (8). Preston Qualification Standards will be applied.
- Merit Promotion Plan Candidates (MPP) – Current permanent competitive Federal status employees, reinstatement eligibles, and current IHS Indian Preference individuals and/or individuals who are eligible for excepted appointment in IHS under some other authority (e.g., handicapped authority, etc).
- Veteran's Preference – Veterans who are preference eligibles or who have been separated from the armed forces under honorable conditions after 3 years or more of continuous active service may apply.
- Commissioned Officer: It is the responsibility of the Officer to submit sufficient information to permit the Human Resources Office to determine whether the Officer meets the qualification requirements, including any selective placement factor.

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICE: Southwest Region Human Resources Office, 7900 South J. Stock Road, Tucson, AZ 85746 (520) 295-2434

CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT:

- Government housing will be provided
- The provisions of PL 101-630, the Indian Child Protection and Family Violence Act apply to this position.
- This position is subject to shift, night, weekend and/or holiday work.
- The Tucson Area Indian Health Service is a smoke-free work environment.
- Male applicants born after December 31, 1959, must certify that they have registered with the Selective Service System or are exempt from having to do so under the Selective Service Law.
- A selectee born after 1956, must present proof of immunity to measles and rubella or be vaccinated before their appointment (subject to certain exemptions).
- A selectee to this position is subject to a background security investigation.
- A selectee of this position may be required to satisfactorily complete a one-year probationary period.

TRAVEL and RELOCATION: Travel and relocation cost may be paid in accordance with applicable Federal and Departmental travel regulations.

DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES: Position is located in the inpatient setting and performs professional nursing duties in the care of general medical-surgical, obstetrical, pediatric, and behavioral patients encountered on a daily basis. Provides comprehensive

nursing care to acutely ill and long-term patients on the inpatient unit. Administers prescribed oral medications, hypodermic injections, IV fluid, blood transfusions, and oxygen therapy. Supervises the serving of meals and ensures that dietary needs are met for each patient. Performs nursing procedures such as: nasal pharyngeal and gastric suction, insertion of N-G tubes, urinary catheterization, venipuncture, and chest physical therapy. Insures collection and documentation of patient data, reviews records for completeness, and performs necessary patient teaching. Utilizes diversified professional concepts and practices while performing duties related to specialty areas of care. Responsible for securing narcotics, dangerous drugs, and other controlled substances. As the nurse-in-charge, makes nursing care assignments, directs the work of staff members, and assists with training and evaluation of nursing personnel. Performs other duties as assigned.

SELECTIVE PLACEMENT FACTOR: None

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS: Candidate must have had experience as described below. Your description of work experience, level of responsibility, and accomplishments will be used to determine that you meet these requirements

BASIC REQUIREMENTS: Provide transcripts and proof of current/active license.

Education: Degree or diploma from a professional nursing program approved by the legally designated State accrediting agency at the time the program was completed by the applicant.

Licensure Required: Applicants must have active, current registration as a professional nurse in a State, District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or a territory of the United States. **Submit a copy of current registration.**

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS: In addition to meeting the Basic Requirements, applicants must also meet the following requirements(s).

- GS-04: Completion of a program of less than 30 months' duration or associate degree – OR – 1 year of nursing experience as a military corpsman.
- GS-05: Completion of a program of less than 30 months' duration or associate degree – and – 1 year of professional nursing, or at least GS-4 level practical nursing experience under the supervision of a professional nurse – OR – completion of a program of at least 30 months' duration or 4 academic years above high school or bachelor's degree.
- GS-07: Completion of a professional nursing program – and – 1 year of experience equivalent to at least the GS-5 level – OR – 1 full year of graduate education or bachelor's degree with superior academic achievement.
- GS-09: 2 full years of progressively higher level graduate education or a master's degree – OR – 1 year of specialized experience equivalent to at least the GS-7 level.

Transcripts must be submitted to verify education for all grade levels.

Specialized Experience: Experience that equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position, and that is typically in or related to the work of the position to be filled. To be creditable, specialized experience must have been equivalent to at least the next lower grade level in the normal line of progression for the occupation in the organization.

Examples of Specialized Experience for the Nurse/Clinical Nurse include: Work experience reflecting knowledge of current nursing principles, practices, procedures, standards of care required to provide nursing care. Work experience reflecting knowledge of hospital policy and procedures relating to patient care. Work experience managing patient care in varying medical situations. Additional specialized experience for the Clinical Nurse may include: nursing intervention including medication and immunization administration, intravenous lines, electrocardiograms, outpatient procedures such as, wound care, pain management, and other treatments.

Evaluation of Education: Successfully completed undergraduate course work in nursing; the behavioral, physical, or biological sciences related to nursing; nutrition; public health; and maternal and child health in excess of that required for completion of an associate degree may be substituted for professional nursing (e.g., teaching, a clinical specialty, research, administration, etc.) or in a closely related non-nursing field directly applicable to the requirements of the position to be filled.

Evaluation of Experience: Experience must have equipped the applicant with the particular knowledge, skills, and abilities to perform successfully the duties of the position.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES (KSAs): Applicants who meet the basic qualification requirements described in this announcement will be further evaluated by determining the extent to which their work or related experience, education, training, awards, outside activities, and performance appraisal, etc., indicate they possess the knowledge, skills and abilities described below. All applicants should describe clear, concise examples that show level of accomplishment or degree to which they possess the KSAs on a separate attachment. The information provided will be used to determine the "best qualified" candidates.

1. Knowledge of the nursing process and its application to clinical practice in order to provide individualized, goal-oriented nursing care to the adult and pediatric patient.
2. Knowledge of scientific and psychosocial nursing theory, principles, practices and techniques in order to plan and provide quality nursing care which meets the physical, spiritual, and social-cultural needs of the Indian patient.

3. Knowledge of biological aspects of disease processes and illness in order to recognize complications and implement appropriate therapeutic interventions required.
4. Knowledge of the medications and dosages in order to recognize their desired effects, side-effects, and complications of their use.
5. Ability to analyze the results of various medical procedures and translate them into appropriate nursing interventions.
6. Ability to work effectively and harmoniously within the health care team and with Indian patients and their families.

LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS: Candidates must meet time after competitive appointment, time-in-grade, and qualification requirements by the closing date of the announcement. If selected under the Excepted Service Examining Plan (ESEP) procedures, time-in-grade requirements do not apply.

QUALITY OF EXPERIENCE: Experience must have been at a level of difficulty comparable to the next lower grade in the Federal service. It is an applicant's responsibility to provide documentation or proof that he/she has met the qualification requirements of the position. Reference inquiries, including contacts with candidate's instructors, supervisors, or employers may be made to obtain further information about the candidate's professional qualification for the position.

Benefits:

You may participate in the Federal Employees Health Benefits program, with costs shared with your employer. More info: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#FEHB>.

Life insurance coverage is provided. More info: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#life>

Long-Term Care Insurance is offered and carries into your retirement. More info: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#ltci>

New employees are automatically covered by the Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS). If you are transferring from another agency and covered by CSRS, you may continue in this program. More info: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#retr>

You will earn annual vacation leave. More info: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#VACA>

You will earn sick leave. More info: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#SKLV>

You will be paid for federal holidays that fall within your regularly scheduled tour of duty. More info: <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov/jobextrainfo.asp#HOLI>

HOW TO APPLY: Interested applicants must submit one of the following:

- (1) OF-612, Optional Application for Federal Employment; or
- (2) Resume; or
- (3) Any other written application to:

Tucson Area Indian Health Service
Attention: Southwest Region Human Resources Office
7900 South J Stock Road
Tucson, AZ 85746

For additional information or to obtain a copy of the vacancy announcement or forms, you may:

- (1) call the Human Resources office at 520- 295-2434,
- (2) email human-resources-tucson@mail.ihs.gov,
- (3) visit the OPM website at www.jobsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/ or
- (4) visit the IHS website at www.ihs.gov/JobCareerDevelop/Jobs_index.asp

SEPARATE ATTACHMENTS REQUIRED IN ADDITION TO APPLICATION / RESUME:

1. Form BIA-4432, Verification of Indian Preference for Employment, if claiming Indian Preference.
2. Narrative statements with specific responses to the Knowledge, Skills and Abilities (KSAs) and/or Selective Placement Factor identified for this position.
3. Optional Form 306, Declaration for Federal Employment; MANDATORY for all positions.
4. Addendum to Declaration for Federal Employment - IHS-Child Care & Indian Child Care Worker Positions--MANDATORY for positions that require regular contact or control over children.
5. Veteran preference eligible – Submit evidence of eligibility, i.e., DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, or SF-15, Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference and the documents requested on the form.
6. Current or former Federal employee - SF-50B, Notification of Personnel Action.
7. PHS Commissioned Corps applicant - Copy of Personnel Order.
8. Photocopy of current/active license or certification.
9. College transcript(s).

INFORMATION NEEDED ON APPLICATION / RESUME

1. Announcement number and title and grade(s) of the job you are applying for; full name, mailing address (with zip code) and day and evening telephone numbers; Social Security Number; Country of citizenship.
2. Highest Federal civilian grade held (also give job series and dates held).
3. High School – Name, city, state (zip code, if known), date of diploma or GED.
4. Colleges or universities – Name, city, state (zip code, if known), majors, type and year of any degrees received (if no degree, show total credits earned and indicate whether semester or quarter hours). Attach transcript(s).
5. Residency training - Indicate specialty; name and location of hospital, name of program director, dates attended (month/year), date certificate received (if applicable).
6. Certification by a Specialty Board – Indicate if you are eligible for certification by an American Specialty Board or if you are board certified. Indicate name of specialty board and date (month/year) of certification or eligibility (if applicable). Attach certification.
7. Work Experience (paid and unpaid) – Job title, duties and accomplishments, employer's name and address, supervisor's name and phone number, **starting and ending dates (month/year), hours per week**, salary and indicate if we may contact your current supervisor.
8. Job-related training courses (title and year), honors, awards and special accomplishments, (i.e., publications, memberships in professional or honor societies), leadership activities, public speaking and performance awards.
9. Job-related skills, for example, other languages, computer software/hardware, tools, machinery, typing speed.

Application Instructions for Public Health Service Commissioned Corps Candidates: Your resume or curriculum vitae must contain all the information listed in HOW TO APPLY in sufficient detail to enable the Human Resources Office to make a determination that you have the required qualifications for the position. A narrative statement addressing specific information related to any knowledge, skills and abilities, which are being used as a selective and/or evaluative factor is required. Proof of an appropriate license, if applicable, must also be provided. Applicants claiming Indian Preference must submit proof on Form BIA-4432 and will be evaluated against the applicable Preston Standard or the Civil Service, if no Preston Standard exists. Candidates must meet full qualification requirements. If your resume or curriculum vitae does not provide all the information requested in the job announcement, you may lose consideration for the position. Submit a copy of your personnel order.

Other Information:

Applications, resumes or other written application format must contain all of the information listed above in sufficient detail to enable the Human Resources Office to make a determination that you have the required qualifications for the position. If your application, resume or other written application format does not contain all the information and forms requested in the announcement, you may lose consideration for this job.

APPLICATIONS WITH REQUIRED FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED IN OUR OFFICE BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS ON THE CLOSING DATE OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT. TELEFAXED/EMAILED DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED; THERE WILL BE NO EXCEPTIONS. NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE SOLICITED FROM APPLICANTS.

Preference in filling vacancies is given to qualified Indian Preference candidates in accordance with the Indian Preference Act (Title 25, United States Code, Sections 472 and 473).

Applicants or current Federal employees claiming Indian Preference must indicate on their application packet, if they wish to be considered under the Merit Promotion Plan (MPP), the Excepted Service Examining Plan (ESEP), or both. If not, they will be considered under the MPP only.

Proof of U.S. Citizenship is required for an appointment to the Indian Health Service. The Director, IHS may grant an exception to this policy for appointments to excepted positions, provided that the current appropriations act permits IHS to pay citizens from the country where the applicant is from.

Additional selections may be made within 90 days from the date the Candidate Referral Roster was issued if the position becomes vacant or to fill an identical additional position.

Employees, who received a buyout and subsequently return to positions in Federal agencies, whether by re-employment or contracts for personal services, are generally obligated to repay the full amount of the buyout to the agency that paid it.

If position is advertised at multiple grade levels, it can be filled at a lower grade than the full performance level. Advancement to the next grade without further competition is possible, once all legal and regulatory requirements are met; however, such advancement is neither automatic nor guaranteed.

The Tucson Area Indian Health Service provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the Human Resources

Management Branch at (520) 295-2435. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be on a case-by-case basis.

The Department of Health and Human Services is an equal opportunity employer. The Department does not discriminate in employment decisions on the basis of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability or sexual orientation.

AREA INFORMATION: The Tucson Area encompasses the Pascua Yaqui (pah.skwah ya.ke) and Tohono O'odham (to.ho.no aah.tum) Indian Reservations. The Sells Service Unit (SSU) is the primary source of health care for the approximately 24,000 people of the Tohono O'odham Nation. The Sells Service Unit consists of an American Hospital Association affiliated JCAHO accredited hospital at Sells (65 miles west of Tucson) and three health centers - San Xavier Health Center located in Tucson; Santa Rosa Health Center located in Santa Rosa Village, and the San Simon Health Center located in San Simon Village, all on the Tohono O'odham Nation Indian Reservation. The SSU also provides an environmental health program, which is responsible for construction and maintenance of sanitation facilities. The Sells Service Unit has a community focused health care delivery program and works in close association with the Tohono O'odham Tribal Health Committee and Tribal Health Department.

Tucson - Arizona's second largest metropolitan area is home to nearly 1,000,000. Tucson is one of the oldest continuously inhabited sites in North America, steeped in a rich heritage of Indian and Spanish influence. It affords entertainment, recreation and shopping and cultural opportunities. The arid desert climate receives an annual rainfall of 7 inches with average temperatures ranging from 50° in winter months to over 100° in summer.

**CTAP - INFORMATION FOR DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DHHS)
SURPLUS OR DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY CONSIDERATION.**

If you are currently a DHHS employee who has received a Reduction-in-Force (RIF) separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation, you may be entitled to special priority selection under the DHHS Career Transition Assistance Program (CTAP). To receive this priority consideration, you must:

1. Be a current DHHS career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) or be a current IHS excepted appointment (with no time limits) tenure group II excepted/competitive service employee who has received a RIF separation notice or a Certificate of Expected Separation (CES) and, the date of the RIF separation has not passed and you are still on the rolls of DHHS. You must submit a copy of the RIF separation notice or CES along with your application.
2. Be applying for a position that is at or below the grade level of the position from which you are being separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are being separated.
3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package.
4. Be currently employed by DHHS in the same commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
5. File your application by the vacancy announcement closing date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
6. Meet the basic qualifications for the position, any documented selective factor, physical requirements with any reasonable accommodation and are able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position without undue interruption.

**ICTAP - INFORMATION FOR DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION
PRIORITY CONSIDERATION UNDER THE INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
(ICTAP)**

If you are a displaced Federal employee, you may be entitled to receive special priority selection under the ICTAP. To receive this priority consideration, you must:

1. Be a displaced Federal employee. You must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation such as RIF separation notice, a letter from the Office of Personnel Management or our agency documenting your priority consideration status with your application package. The following categories of candidates are considered displaced employees.
 - A. Current or former career or career-conditional (tenure group I or II) competitive service employees who:
 1. Received a specific RIF separation notice; or
 2. Separated because of a compensable injury, whose compensation has been terminated and whose former agency certifies that it is unable to place; or
 3. Retired with a disability and whose disability annuity has been or is being terminated; or
 4. Upon receipt of a RIF separation notice retired on the effective date of the RIF and submits a Standard Form 50 that indicates "Retirement in Lieu of RIF;" or
 5. Retired under the discontinued service retirement option; or
 6. Was separated because he/she declined a transfer of function or directed reassignment to another commuting area.

OR

- B. Former Military Reserve or National Guard Technicians who are receiving a special Office of Personnel Management (OPM) disability retirement annuity under Section 8337(h) or 8456 of Title 5, United States Code.
2. Be applying for a position at or below the grade level of the position from which you have been separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you are separated.
3. Have current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package. (This requirement does not apply to candidates who are eligible due to compensable injury or disability retirement.)
4. Occupy or be displaced from a position in the same local commuting area of the position for which you are requesting priority consideration.
5. File your application by the vacancy announcement date and meet all the application criteria (e.g., submit all required documentation, etc.).
6. Be rated well qualified for the position including documented selective factors, quality ranking factors, physical requirements with reasonable accommodations and are able to satisfactorily perform the duties of the position upon entry.

Addendum to Declaration for Federal Employment (OF 306)
Indian Health Service
Child Care & Indian Child Care Worker Positions

Item 15a. Agency Specific Questions

Name: _____ Social Security Number: _____
(Please print)

Job Title in Announcement: Clinical Nurse, GS-0610-4/5/7/9 Announcement Number: TUC-OC-09-0002

Section 231 of the Crime Control Act 1990, Public Law 101-647, requires that employment applications for Federal child care positions contain a question asking whether the individual has ever been arrested for or charged with a crime involving a child and for the disposition of the arrest or charge.

Section 408 of the Miscellaneous Indian Legislation, Public Law 101-630, contains a related requirement for positions in the Department of Health and Human Services that involve regular contact with or control over Indian children. The agency must ensure that persons hired for these positions have not been found guilty of or pleaded nolo contendere or guilty to certain crimes.

To assure compliance with the above laws, the following questions are added to the Declaration for Federal Employment:

- 1) Have you ever been arrested for or charged with a crime involving a child? YES _____ NO _____

[If AYES@, provide the date, explanation of the violation, disposition of the arrest or charge, place of occurrence, and the name and address of the police department or court involved.]

- 2) Have you ever been found guilty of, or entered a plea of nolo contendere (no contest) or guilty to, any felonious or misdemeanor offense under Federal, State, or tribal law involving crimes of violence; sexual assault, molestation, exploitation, contact or prostitution; or crimes against persons; or offenses committed against children?
YES _____ NO _____

[If AYES@, provide the date, explanation of the violation, disposition of the arrest or charge, place of occurrence, and the name address of the police department or court involved.]

I certify that (1) my response to these questions is made under penalty of perjury, which is punishable by fines of up to \$2,000 or 5 years imprisonment, or both; and (2) I have received notice that a criminal check will be conducted. I understand my right to obtain a copy of any criminal history report made available to the Indian Health Service and my right to challenge the accuracy and completeness of any information contained in the report.

Applicant's Signature (sign in ink)

Date

Public Burden Statement: In accordance with Paperwork Reduction Act (5 CFR 1320.8 (b)(3)), a Federal agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Respondents must be informed (on the reporting instrument, in instructions, or in a cover letter) the reasons for which the information will be collected; the way the information will be used to further the proper performance of the functions of the agency; whether responses to the collection of the information are voluntary, required to obtain a benefit (citing authority), or mandatory (citing authority); and the nature and extent of confidentiality to be provided, if any (citing authority). Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the necessary data, and completing and reviewing the collection information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information to the IHS PRA Information Collection Clearance Staff, 12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 450, Rockville, MD 20852. **Please do not send completed data collection instruments to this address.**